



Reference No. 6.27

INDUSTRIAL DISPUTES, MAY 1975

MAIN FEATURES

- In May 1975 there were 330 industrial disputes involving 366,000 employees and resulting in a loss of 504,600 working days.

The main disputes in May related to claims for increased wages and involved —

- Metal trades employees in most States.
- Water supply, etc. employees in New South Wales.
- Storemen and Packers in Victoria.
- Coal Miners in N.S.W. and Queensland.

EXPLANATORY NOTES

This bulletin contains statistics of industrial disputes for the month of May 1975 and some previous periods. More information about these disputes will appear later in the detailed quarterly bulletin *Industrial Disputes* (Reference No. 6.6).

2. The statistics of industrial disputes are compiled according to the Australian Standard Industrial Classification (ASIC), described in the Bureau publication *Australian Standard Industrial Classification (Preliminary Edition)*, 1969, Vol. 1. Statistics on this basis are published in *Labour Report* No. 58, 1973 (Reference No. 6.7).

3. The statistics of industrial disputes refer only to disputes involving stoppages of work of ten man-days or more. Workers involved include workers directly and

indirectly involved in disputes. Workers indirectly involved are employees thrown out of work at the establishments where the stoppages occurred but not themselves parties to the dispute. Particulars of some stoppages (e.g. those involving a large number of establishments) may be estimated and the statistics therefore should be regarded as giving a broad measure of the extent of stoppages of work (as defined).

4. Stoppages of work occurring at different times and at different establishments but due to the same cause may be regarded as one industrial dispute. However, an industrial dispute occurring in more than one State is counted as a separate dispute in each State. A dispute involving workers in more than one industry in a State or Territory is counted only once in the number of disputes — in the industry that has the largest number of workers involved; but workers involved, working days lost and estimated loss in wages are allocated to their respective industries. Disputes not settled at the end of a year are included as new disputes in the figures for the following year. The monthly statistics refer to all disputes operative in the month, including those disputes that commenced in previous months. In Table 1 details of the number of disputes and workers involved are shown separately for disputes beginning in the month and for all disputes. Average days lost per worker involved on a monthly basis are not comparable with the yearly averages, because workers involved are included in each month in which they are involved in disputes, while they are counted once only for each dispute in the annual figures. Any discrepancies between totals and sums of components are due to rounding.

5. For statistics of industrial disputes for earlier periods see *Labour Report* No. 58, 1973 (Reference No. 6.7).

TABLE 1. — INDUSTRIAL DISPUTES : AUSTRALIA

| Period | Number of disputes | | Workers involved ('000) | | Working days lost | | Estimated loss in wage (a) (\$'00) |
|-----------|--------------------|-----------|-------------------------|-----------|-------------------|--------------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| | Beginning in month | Total (a) | Beginning in month | Total (a) | Number (a) ('000) | Average days per worker involved (b) | |
| 1969 | .. | 2,014 | .. | 1,285.2 | 1,958.0 | 1.5 | 22,85.7 |
| 1970 | .. | 2,738 | .. | 1,367.4 | 2,393.7 | 1.8 | 30,83.3 |
| 1971 | .. | 2,404 | .. | 1,326.5 | 3,068.6 | 2.3 | 45,11.3 |
| 1972 | .. | 2,298 | .. | 1,113.8 | 2,010.3 | 1.8 | 32,74.4 |
| 1973 | .. | 2,538 | .. | 803.0 | 2,634.7 | 3.3 | 45,06.5 |
| 1974 | .. | 2,809 | .. | 2,004.8 | 6,292.5 | 3.1 | 128,01.8 |
| 1974 - | | | | | | | |
| May | 306 | 356 | 172.6 | 317.5 | 559.6 | 1.8 | 11,02.3 |
| June | 241 | 277 | 92.8 | 98.0 | 235.1 | 2.4 | 4,94.2 |
| July | 308 | 336 | 216.0 | 227.6 | 526.2 | 2.3 | 11,72.7 |
| August | 232 | 299 | 227.5 | 314.1 | 816.3 | 2.6 | 18,24.7 |
| September | 237 | 268 | 176.5 | 189.5 | 255.1 | 1.3 | 6,71.9 |
| October | 226 | 245 | 145.9 | 179.5 | 238.6 | 1.3 | 5,72.7 |
| November | 196 | 216 | 72.7 | 75.4 | 161.8 | 2.1 | 3,74.2 |
| December | 126 | 139 | 60.0 | 63.4 | 80.5 | 1.3 | 2,95.5 |
| 1975 | | | | | | | |
| January | 158 | 158 | 29.9 | 29.9 | 36.9 | 1.2 | 3.6 |
| February | 237 | 252 | 65.1 | 67.7 | 116.7 | 1.7 | 2,90.0 |
| March | 182 | 211 | 70.7 | 81.7 | 169.1 | 2.1 | 4,61.8 |
| April (c) | 246 | 256 | 288.7 | 290.9 | 416.3 | 1.4 | 11,14.7 |
| May (c) | 283 | 330 | 144.3 | 366.0 | 504.6 | 1.4 | 13,06.6 |

(a) Refers to all disputes operative and workers involved in the period — see paragraph 4, page 1. (b) Monthly figures are not comparable with yearly figures — see paragraph 4, page 1. (c) Subject to revision.

TABLE 2. — INDUSTRIAL DISPUTES : INDUSTRIES (a), AUSTRALIA
WORKING DAYS LOST ('000) (b)

| Period | Mining | | Manufacturing | | Transport and storage; communication | | Other industries | | II industries |
|-----------|--------|-------|---------------------------------------------|-------|--------------------------------------|----------------------|------------------|-------|---------------|
| | Coal | Other | Metal products, machinery and equipment (c) | Other | Construction | Stevedoring services | Other | | |
| 1969 | 76.1 | 76.9 | 643.6 | 267.1 | 264.4 | 136.2 | 286.4 | 207.3 | 1,30.0 |
| 1970 | 178.4 | 76.5 | 625.9 | 440.9 | 618.3 | 148.3 | 156.7 | 148.8 | 2,37.7 |
| 1971 | 251.6 | 83.2 | 636.7 | 317.7 | 1,109.5 | 73.9 | 300.1 | 295.9 | 3,86.6 |
| 1972 | 60.8 | 62.0 | 620.2 | 393.7 | 407.8 | 39.2 | 205.2 | 221.3 | 2,03.3 |
| 1973 | 87.5 | 155.3 | 800.8 | 661.4 | 439.3 | 49.5 | 93.2 | 347.6 | 2,47.7 |
| 1974 | 163.0 | 146.5 | 2,850.8 | 756.7 | 1,188.7 | 111.1 | 516.2 | 559.4 | 6,25.5 |
| 1974 - | | | | | | | | | |
| May | 4.6 | 31.5 | 108.4 | 36.5 | 229.2 | 7.3 | 21.1 | 120.9 | 9.6 |
| June | 2.1 | 3.5 | 36.0 | 69.9 | 31.4 | 8.0 | 48.3 | 35.9 | 5.1 |
| July | 8.0 | 8.5 | 45.9 | 203.3 | 128.4 | 5.3 | 64.5 | 62.2 | 5.2 |
| August | 7.5 | 14.0 | 138.9 | 208.3 | 81.9 | 3.1 | 306.8 | 55.7 | 8.3 |
| September | 3.2 | 23.1 | 30.2 | 50.1 | 47.0 | 6.8 | 10.6 | 84.2 | 5.1 |
| October | 4.6 | 18.9 | 41.7 | 48.4 | 68.7 | 7.1 | 13.2 | 36.0 | 3.6 |
| November | 31.3 | 11.3 | 25.5 | 15.7 | 12.7 | 7.5 | 21.8 | 35.9 | 1.8 |
| December | 7.7 | 6.9 | 2.5 | 3.9 | 29.5 | 1.5 | 15.5 | 13.0 | 1.5 |
| 1975 - | | | | | | | | | |
| January | 2.2 | 4.0 | 6.2 | 7.1 | 2.9 | 4.7 | 1.6 | 8.2 | 5.9 |
| February | 5.0 | 5.2 | 26.3 | 24.0 | 23.9 | 2.3 | 2.2 | 27.8 | 5.7 |
| March | 8.1 | 1.3 | 40.0 | 22.3 | 50.4 | 2.0 | 7.8 | 37.2 | 9.1 |
| April (d) | 10.9 | 7.3 | 116.4 | 24.4 | 45.1 | 3.6 | 13.5 | 195.1 | 6.3 |
| May (d) | 36.8 | 7.6 | 177.2 | 78.1 | 65.8 | 6.3 | 7.2 | 125.4 | 4.6 |

(a) Australian Standard Industrial Classification — see paragraph 2, page 1. (b) Refers to all disputes operative in the period — see paragraph 4, page 1. (c) Includes ASIC sub-divisions 29, 31, 32, 33. (d) Subject to revision.

TABLE 3. — INDUSTRIAL DISPUTES
WORKING DAYS LOST ('000) (a)

| Period | N.S.W. | Vic. | Qld | S.A. | W.A. | Tas. | Aust. (b) |
|-----------|---------|---------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-----------|
| 1969 | 743.8 | 717.2 | 238.6 | 129.0 | 101.4 | 9.9 | 1,958.0 |
| 1970 | 1,393.6 | 510.8 | 179.2 | 93.1 | 141.1 | 32.2 | 2,393.7 |
| 1971 | 1,887.5 | 689.6 | 271.4 | 111.2 | 69.4 | 20.6 | 3,068.6 |
| 1972 | 866.8 | 638.4 | 292.2 | 60.9 | 94.6 | 19.2 | 2,010.3 |
| 1973 | 1,098.1 | 780.5 | 320.2 | 130.6 | 117.3 | 140.1 | 2,634.7 |
| 1974 | 2,665.0 | 2,386.6 | 529.5 | 316.5 | 256.9 | 88.5 | 6,292.5 |
| 1973 — | | | | | | | |
| January | 32.8 | 11.2 | 4.1 | 2.6 | 7.9 | 19.1 | 82.1 |
| February | 87.0 | 86.6 | 16.7 | 14.7 | 7.7 | 33.5 | 248.4 |
| March | 110.0 | 47.4 | 18.8 | 15.2 | 10.2 | 28.5 | 231.7 |
| April | 42.9 | 92.8 | 18.2 | 5.7 | 11.7 | 9.5 | 192.0 |
| May | 125.6 | 94.2 | 56.2 | 7.9 | 7.2 | 12.4 | 304.3 |
| June | 158.5 | 91.1 | 75.6 | 3.0 | 8.7 | 18.8 | 363.7 |
| July | 90.8 | 102.0 | 17.1 | 4.2 | 9.2 | 1.6 | 225.0 |
| August | 113.0 | 33.7 | 42.8 | 7.1 | 15.7 | 2.5 | 218.6 |
| September | 91.2 | 83.2 | 25.1 | 6.8 | 4.3 | 0.2 | 215.9 |
| October | 110.3 | 87.3 | 14.9 | 15.3 | 12.9 | 1.8 | 245.2 |
| November | 125.2 | 44.6 | 27.4 | 23.3 | 21.0 | 8.5 | 257.9 |
| December | 10.8 | 6.5 | 3.4 | 24.7 | 0.8 | 3.6 | 49.8 |
| 1974 — | | | | | | | |
| January | 30.9 | 7.5 | 6.4 | 1.3 | 5.9 | 0.2 | 53.6 |
| February | 253.4 | 125.7 | 13.2 | 16.1 | 5.0 | 1.1 | 418.1 |
| March | 1,063.1 | 728.0 | 45.8 | 99.1 | 8.6 | 54.1 | 2,011.3 |
| April | 351.4 | 454.8 | 67.2 | 37.2 | 16.8 | 5.2 | 936.1 |
| May | 252.0 | 189.1 | 44.3 | 52.2 | 11.4 | 4.4 | 559.6 |
| June | 108.7 | 94.4 | 7.3 | 7.4 | 12.1 | 3.0 | 235.1 |
| July | 117.3 | 214.7 | 136.2 | 37.8 | 11.8 | 4.6 | 526.2 |
| August | 215.0 | 400.2 | 127.7 | 34.6 | 28.9 | 1.5 | 816.3 |
| September | 116.7 | 73.9 | 25.2 | 18.4 | 17.7 | 1.4 | 255.1 |
| October | 46.3 | 49.2 | 19.7 | 6.3 | 105.5 | 11.3 | 238.6 |
| November | 69.0 | 31.5 | 27.2 | 5.2 | 25.3 | 1.4 | 161.8 |
| December | 41.3 | 17.6 | 9.4 | 1.0 | 7.9 | 0.1 | 80.5 |
| 1975 — | | | | | | | |
| January | 15.1 | 7.5 | 7.1 | 3.1 | 4.0 | 0.1 | 36.9 |
| February | 54.5 | 15.8 | 32.6 | 4.3 | 6.0 | 0.4 | 116.7 |
| March | 119.6 | 18.9 | 24.0 | 2.6 | 1.6 | 0.5 | 169.1 |
| April (c) | 281.6 | 91.4 | 16.2 | 5.2 | 9.7 | 1.9 | 416.3 |
| May (c) | 218.7 | 215.7 | 31.5 | 10.9 | 15.7 | 2.2 | 504.6 |

(a) Refers to all disputes operative in the period — see paragraph 4, page 1. (b) Includes the Northern Territory and the Australian Capital Territory. (c) Subject to revision.

More information about these disputes will appear later in the detailed quarterly bulletin *Industrial Disputes* (Reference No. 6.6).

The statistics of industrial disputes are compiled according to the Australian Standard Industrial Classification (ASIC) described in the Bureau publication *Australian Standard Industrial Classification (Revised Edition)*, 1969, Vol. 1. Statistics on this topic are published in *Labour Report No. 58*, 1973 (Reference No. 6.7).

The statistics of industrial disputes refer only to disputes involving stoppages of work of ten man-days or

months. In Table 1 details of the number of disputes and workers involved are shown separately for disputes beginning in the month and for all disputes. Average days lost per worker involved on a monthly basis are not comparable with the yearly averages, because workers involved are included in each month in which they are involved in disputes, while they are counted once only for each dispute in the annual figures. Any discrepancies between totals and sums of components are due to rounding.

For statistics of industrial disputes for earlier periods see *Labour Report No. 58* (Reference No. 6.7).

J. G. MILLER

Acting Commonwealth Statistician

Australian Bureau of Statistics
Canberra. A.C.T. 2600

NOTE. Inquiries concerning these statistics may be made in Canberra by telephoning Mr G. Laurie on 63 9111 extension 2343 or, in each State capital, by telephoning the office of the Australian Bureau of Statistics.

N9
331-890994
AUS